## OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KINNEY

FROM: RILEY

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES/PROGRAMS

**DATE** 12/5/02 **CC:** BOYD

(NOTE: These are preliminary ideas. We can flesh out ones we want to give serious consideration. As to a huge education hit, I think the tuition free community college or the tuition free for foster care children would be our best bet.)

Tuition free community college

Early childhood (we need to wait to see what Kagan assessment finds/recommends)

Mississippi Brain Trust

Faculty salaries at universities

Constitutional amendment for 62% of general funds to be dedicated to education

Teacher advisory council

Education roundtable (education, government, corporate) to advise Governor

School choice to comply with NCLB requirements

Teacher car tag (passed a few years ago, but never implemented)

School report card provided to parents (in progress at MDE)

Principals' leadership program to address critical need for new principals and superintendents

School building: technology labs in every school; \$\_\_\_ million over next \_\_\_ years to ensure access to technology

Smaller K-3 class size

Specialized instruction in smaller classes to 5-7 students who are determined to be performing below grade level

School counselors – reduce counselor/student ratio

Identify funding for the legislature's unfunded mentor teachers mandate (mentor teacher will receive \$\_\_\_\_ and school receives \$\_\_\_\_ to support the mentor and the new teacher)

P-16/K-20 education system

Parental Involvement Program – create regional offices to provide training for parents in school districts. Program strives to improve student performance in the classroom by increasing the parents' role as partners.

Waive tuition and mandatory student fees for a child who is 18 years of age, a full-time student and was adopted or in foster care upon school entry. Require an eligible student to meet all entrance requirements for the postsecondary institution and maintain academic eligibility while enrolled.